

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

RSR-01 /143 W

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P 121930Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6269

INFO ALL OAS CAPITALS PRIORITY 38

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TAGS: PFOR, OAS, VE, CO, CI, MX, PN

SUBJ: OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE: WRAP-UP OF FINAL SESSION OF
GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE JULY 11

FROM USOAS DEL

SUMMARY: FINAL SESSION OF GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE DEBATE EXAMINED
VIEWS OF VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA AND CHILE CONCERNING WHETHER AND
HOW SYSTEM COULD RECONCILE CONFLICTING INTERESTS OF U.S. AND
LATIN AMERICA, THEN TURNED INTO FEAST OF SELF-CONGRATULATION
AND OPTIMISM OVER ACHIEVEMENTS IN LIMA AND PROSPECTS FOR
DESIGNING RADICAL NEW SYSTEM DURING LATER STAGES OF COMMITTEE
WORK. EIGHT-NATIONAL WORKING GROUP (INCLUDING U.S.) WILL NOW
DRAW UP REPORT ON LIMA PHASE FOR COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL AT
CLOSING SESSIONS FRIDAY. END SUMMARY.

1. GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE'S FINAL DISCUSSION SESSION JULY 11
P.M. BEGAN WITH PERFUNCTORY REPORTS FROM CHAIRMEN OF THREE
WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES, MOSTLY SUMMARIZING TOPICS AND DOCUMENTS
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DISCUSSED WITHOUT DRAWING CONCLUSIONS. CHAIRMAN NAMED EIGHT-

NATION WORKING GROUP TO DRAW UP FINAL LIMA REPORT ON THURSDAY:
PERU, COSTA RICA, MEXICO, U.S., ECUADOR, COLOMBIA, BOLIVIA
AND URUGUAY.

2. COMMITTEE TOOK FINAL FLING AT PRINCIPLES, WITH GARCIA BUSTILLOS (VENEZUELA) LEADING OFF BY POSING BASIC QUESTION SQUARELY: DO WE WANT OAS TO BE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES OR JUST LATIN STATES? SAYING HE WAS BOTHERED BY RADICAL IMPLICATIONS OF MANY PROPOSALS, HE WARNED VENEZUELA MIGHT NOT BE ABLE GO ALONG WITH RESTRUCTURING WHOSE EFFECT AND APPARENT PURPOSE WERE TO ABANDON PRESENT SYSTEM ENTIRELY AND CUT TIES ALTOGETHER WITH U.S. VENEZUELA AGREED THAT SYSTEM'S PROBLEMS WERE MAINLY DUE TO DISTORTING EFFECT OF PREPONDERANT U.S. INFLUENCE, AND IT YIELDED TO NO ONE IN DESIRE FOR LATIN SOLIDARITY. BUT U.S. WAS NOT GOING TO GO AWAY JUST BY BEING DEALT OUT OF GAME. PROBLEM WAS TO DESIGN SYSTEM WHICH WOULD FOSTER MORE USEFUL U.S. PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGE IT POSITIVELY IN LATIN DEVELOPMENT.

3. VALDERRAMA (COLOMBIA) VERBALLY ALIGNED HIS DELEGATION WITH THOSE PUSHING FOR RADICAL CHANGE IN CONCEPT OF OAS MISSION AND PURPOSES, READING PROPOSED TEXT FOR A COMPLETELY REVISED CHAPTER II OF OAS CHARTER DESIGNED TO INCORPORATE ALL MAJOR NEW "PRINCIPLES" PROPOSED TO DATE, INCLUDING IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM.

4. HOLDER (BARBADOS) FOLLOWED WITH APPEAL FOR SYMPATHETIC VIEW OF CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE NOT YET MEMBERS. DISAGREEING WITH THOSE WHO SAW NO COMMON INTERESTS BETWEEN U.S. AND LATINS, HOLDER CLAIMED COMMITTEE WOULD BE BUSY CREATING OAS IF IT DIDN'T ALREADY EXIST. HE ACKNOWLEDGED VAST DIFFERENCES AMONG THOSE MEMBERS BUT WARNED AGAINST BUILDING THESE DIFFERENCES INTO CHARTER--ESPECIALLY SINCE THIS MIGHT WORK TO KEEP OUT OTHER AMERICAN STATES, SUCH AS CANADA, WHOSE ROLE MIGHT BE TO DILUTE INFLUENCE OF MOST POWERFUL MEMBER.

5. IN RESTRAINED TONES, HERRERA (CHILE) VOICED REGRET THAT COMMITTEE STILL HADN'T COME TO TERMS WITH BASIC OAS FALLACY: THE SUPPOSED "CONVERGENCE" OF U.S. AND LATIN AMERICAN INTERESTS. PROTESTING NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT CHILE WANTED U.S. OUT OF ORGANIZATION, HERRERA INSISTED TO CONTRARY THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHILE WANTED AN OAS WHICH WOULD ENGAGE U.S. AND LATIN BLOC ON MORE EQUITABLE TERMS, REFLECTING THEIR FUNDAMENTALLY CONTRADICTORY INTERESTS AND ENCOURAGING POSITIVE, FRUITFUL DIALOGUE AMONG EQUALS. AFTER AN OBLIQUE APOLOGY TO U.S. FOR INTRUDING PREVIOUSLY ON ITS DOMESTIC AFFAIRS ("ANY IS FREE, HOWEVER, TO REFER TO CHILE'S PROBLEMS, SUCH AS ITS INFLATION AND ITS DEBT RENEGOTIATION"), HERRERA SOUGHT TO RATIONALIZE SUPPORT FOR IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM WITH CHILE'S OWN DEEP BE-

LIEF IN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY. HE THEN "CONFESSED" LIMA MEETING HAD ACHIEVED MORE THAN HE HAD EXPECTED: FORCES FOR CHANGE HAD TURNED OUT TO BE AN IRRESISTABLE AVALANCE.

6. SMARTING FROM ASSERTIONS OF HAVING SOLD OUT REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY, DE LA COLINA (MEX) OFFERED LAST ATTEMPT AT "CLARIFICATION" UNDER FONMIN INSTRUCTIONS: MEXICO CONTINUES AS ALWAYS TO DEFEND DEMOCRATIC IDEAL; IT PROPOSED ITS ELIMINATION FROM ARTICLE 3(D) BECAUSE IT HAD SERVED THERE TO UNDERMINE SOLIDARITY; IT REMAINS OPEN TO ALL OTHER FORMULATIONS WHICH MAY BE ADVANCED, SUCH AS JAMAICA/BARBADOS VERSION (WHICH, HOWEVER, WOULD HAVE TO BE "STRENGTHENED" WITH RESPECT TO REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY). BUT IT REMAINS CONVINCED THAT "PLURALISM" IS SOUNDEST BASIS FOR SOLIDARITY AMONG DIFFERING REGIMES AND IDEOLOGIES.

7. PARAGUAY, BRAZIL, JAMAICA AND BOLIVIA THEN PARADED SURFACE OPTIMISM OVER LIMA RESULTS AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF LEADING DELEGATION, ESPECIALLY PERU AND MEXICO. FINALLY, PANAMA'S PITY BROUGHT MEETING TO A SOUR CLOSE WITH COMPLAINTS ABOUT COMMITTEE'S NOT HAVING FOLLOWED HIS PROPOSED WORK APPROACH, FAILURE TO GET AT NUB OF PROBLEM BETWEEN U.S. AND LATIN AMERICA, AND OVER-CONFIDENCE THAT NEW SYSTEM COULD BE DESIGNED TO DEAL WITH ECONOMIC AGGRESSION, MULTINATIONALS (ALL, NOT JUST U.S. OWNED), U.S. BILATERALISM ("A SYSTEM OF AWARDS AND PUNISHMENT WHICH MAY CARRY SEEDS OF OUR DESTRUCTION"), IN ANYTHING LESS THAN TWO YEARS.
BELCHER

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